## Testimony of Sarah Dickman, New Britain Paraprofessional

## Labor and Public Employees Committee March 1, 2012

S.B. 150 AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN MUNICPAL EMPLOYEES

Good afternoon Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski, and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Sarah Dickman and I am a paraprofessional at Pulaski Middle School. In New Britain. FMLA is a great thing to have and I feel it is unfair that the paraprofessionals do not have it. FMLA would have helped me with a surgery I had last year and I was out two weeks. I could not use it, because of the silly two hours I do not have. I find that FMLA is so important to have, because it will help the paraprofessionals to not lose their jobs. I am recently pregnant and I can not even use FMLA when I am out for two months. Paraprofessionals work hard and do so much for the teachers and I really think we deserve the FMLA, incase of an emergency. I really hope, in all the research, that the FMLA for paraprofessionals with pass. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and participating on trying to pass the law for FMLA.